



VM 6016.1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Gray et al.  
Title: Surgical Device with Malleable Shaft  
Appl. No.: 09/432,523  
Filing Date: 3 November 1999  
Examiner: David J. Isabella  
Art Unit: 3627

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date below.	
<u>Paul E. Schaefer</u>	(Printed Name)
<u>[Signature]</u>	(Signature)
<u>6 April 2006</u>	(Date of Deposit)

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

**A. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action dated 30 July 2004 and to the Office Communication dated 9 January 2006.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as indicated in Section B.

Please cancel claim 42.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**